

# SEDGEFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL

## AREA 4 FORUM

Hackworth Suite,  
Shildon Sunnydale Leisure Centre,  
Middridge Lane,  
Shildon.

Tuesday,  
17<sup>th</sup> September, 2002

Time : 6.30 p.m.

**Present:** Councillor J. G. Huntingdon (in the Chair) and  
Councillors D. M. Hancock and F. Timmiss

**Shildon Town Council**

Councillors P. J. Garnett and P. Quinn

**Durham Constabulary**

Inspector F. Moore

**CAVOS**

Ms R. Holmes

**Sunnydale Residents Association**

A. G. Bowman and K. Mulley

**New Shildon Residents Association**

M. J. Johnson

**In**

**Attendance:** Miss M. Ferguson - Sedgefield Borough Council  
Miss C. Todd - Sedgefield Borough Council  
P. Ball - Sedgefield Borough Council  
There were fourteen members of the public present.

**Apologies: Sedgefield Borough Council**

Councillors V. Chapman, Mrs I. Smith, Mrs. L. Smith and  
B. Stephens

**Shildon Town Council**

Councillor Mrs J. O'Brien,

**Durham County Council**

Councillor J. Quigley

**New Shildon Residents Association**

Mrs C. Thompson

**Durham Constabulary**

Sergeant N. Edgar

**Jubilee Fields Residents Association**

Mrs B. Carr

**Sunnydale Residents Association**

J. Kirkbride

**AF(4).7/02 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2002 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. (For copy see file of Minutes).

**AF(4).8/02 COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT FUND**

Consideration was given to a Report of CAVOS and the Council's Regeneration Manager in respect of the Community Empowerment Fund. (For copy see file of Minutes).

Ms. R. Holmes, Chief Officer of CAVOS, attended the meeting to give details of the progress made in the establishment of a Community Network for the Borough, how the network was organised and its composition. She also went onto explain how the Community Network would operate with regard to making decisions and the allocation of funding and resources allocated to the Borough under the Government's National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal.

The Chairman thanks Ms. Holmes for her interesting presentation

**AF(4).9/02 NATIONAL RAILWAY MUSEUM RESERVE COLLECTION**

P. Ball, Head of Leisure Services, was present at the meeting to report on progress.

The Forum was informed that planning permission for the development had been granted on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2002.

It was explained that the total project costs were now estimated at £7.3 million.

In relation to external funding, an application had been submitted for European and Single Regeneration Budget funding. It was anticipated that a decision regarding funding would be received during October 2002.

A shortlist of six major construction companies had been agreed to tender for the work. Tenders would be returned during October 2002. Following receipt of the tenders, it was anticipated that the contract would be awarded during November 2002 in order for work to start during December 2002.

The new centre would provide the NRM with urgently needed additional accommodation for its stock collections. Some 60 – 70 vehicles would be accommodated in the 6,000sqm depot. There would be a mix of recent additions to the collection, in some cases still awaiting restorations. Vehicles on display would change frequently.

Visitors would also be able to see restoration work in progress on railway vehicles. A scheme was being developed in

conjunction with South West Durham Training Ltd at no cost to the project.

One of the aims of the development would be to attract as many visitors as possible. It was explained that the museum was expected to attract 50,000 visitors each year, principally on event weekends generating an anticipated £1.1 million of expenditure within the local economy.

On special event days a park and ride system would be operated to assist in minimising the traffic impact. It was hoped that as many of those visitors as possible would arrive by train thus reducing the impact of increased traffic in and around the town.

The Forum was informed there would be safeguards in place such as road cleansing to avoid any problems with construction traffic to and from the site.

Reference was also made to a letter that the Leader of the Council had sent to Tessa Jowell, Secretary of State requesting that the public be given free access to the museum.

Facilities for school groups would be incorporated into the building.

The Forum was informed that there were no plans for car parking at New Shildon Club as part of this project.

It was explained that the site would be named 'Shildon Village'. There was consensus from Members of the Forum and the public that as Shildon was a town this name may cause confusion.

Members of the Forum were then given the opportunity to ask questions.

The Chairman thanked P. Ball for updating the Forum on progress.

#### **AF(4).10/02 HOUSING PORTFOLIO: TIDY ESTATES AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT INITIATIVE**

Consideration was given to a schedule which, detailed completed, supported, or approved and pending schemes.

##### **Complete Schemes**

The Forum gave consideration to a list of schemes that had been completed since the last meeting.

##### **Supported/Approved Schemes**

AF(4)/5 Installation of mast for CCTV camera opposite Jubilee Pub, Maple Avenue. The

Forum was informed that the cost of the scheme had now reduced to £1,009. Whilst waiting for a start date the planning department had decided to carry out further consultation regarding the location of the column to ensure no objections were received.

- AF(4)/39 Dusk til dawn lighting/higher gates/robust fencing, Rowan Avenue, Shildon. The Forum was informed that the lighting work had been completed on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2002. The price received from Contract Services for metal fencing totalled £7470. The Forum agreed to monitor the area to see if the lighting improved the situation before progressing with the erection of metal fencing.
- AF(4)41 Resurface roadway/footpath and tidy area of land near garages at rear of Willow Walk/Larch Avenue possible additional lighting. It was agreed that the scheme be removed from the schedule as the works had been referred to Highway Maintenance.
- AF(4)43 Erect wrought iron small fence to front of bungalows to prevent access to gardens, 17-27 St. Paul's Terrace. The Forum was informed that it had been necessary to powder coat the fence before painting, however the powder coating did not take first time and the external company needed to reapply the powder coating. However it was noted that it would be at no cost to the Forum. Work would now start on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2002.
- AF(4)/40 Robust metal fencing and gates to be erected plus extension of "hercules" type fencing to roof of shop, rear of fish shop on Maple Avenue near grassed area. A works instruction had been sent on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2002. Awaiting a start date.
- AF(4)/42 Raise height of front wall with metal fencing/raise height of rear/side fence to 6ft to prevent youths causing nuisance, 3 - 7 Maple Avenue bungalows. A works instruction had been sent on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2002. Awaiting a start date.

## Pending Schemes

- AF(4)/16 Additional car parking, Hackworth Close bungalows, near Shildon Court. The Forum agreed that this scheme should remain on the pending list until further information on the Museum was received.
- AF(4)/11 Closure of disused cut - 60 Hollyhill, Shildon. The Forum was informed that the road closure process was now in progress. Closure notices had been posted. After the closure was complete the Housing Department would organise to have a fence or wall erected.
- AF(4)28 Request for footpath to rear of properties, rear of 16 - 20 Weardale Walk. The Forum was informed that notices were now in place. Residents had been consulted as to whether the problem was resolved and any responses were requested 17<sup>th</sup> September 2002. To date no responses had been received therefore the Forum agreed to remove the scheme from the schedule.
- AF(4)/38 Investigate for possible solution to problem of youths climbing onto nest of garages and causing nuisance, Tynedale Walk, Shildon. It was noted that the design was in progress and costing was ongoing. Once the design had been done consultation would be undertaken with the residents.
- AF(4)/29 Replace hardstanding area which were broken and improve soiled areas, Chestnut Close. Shildon. It was noted that the scheme had been referred to repairs and maintenance. Therefore the Forum agreed to remove the scheme from the schedule.
- AF(4)31 Tidying up of area requested - landscaping, Dalton Crescent play area. The Residents Association had been consulted and it was noted that the problem was now regarding the condition of the play equipment. The Forum agreed to remove the scheme from the schedule as the issue had been referred to Leisure Services.
- AF(4)52 Renew fencing and raise height at rear of bungalows to prevent access by youths,

- Harrison Close. The Forum agreed to support the scheme.
- AF(4)55 Remove bushes and relay grassed area to discourage youths congregating, Spout Lane/Linden Close. The Forum agreed to support the scheme.
- AF(4)57 Provide gates to area between 8 and 9 Dalton Cottages to prevent unauthorised access to grassed area. A site visit had been carried out on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2002. It was noted that the scheme would only benefit 2 properties. Not a maintenance issue as there had never been gates. Unlikely that work could be done from another budget. It was agreed that Councillor Hancock would pursue other avenues.
- AF(4)58 Verge strengthening requested to grassed area - vehicles driving over, Harrison Close, Shildon. Engineers had visited the site and they felt that the scheme may not be necessary. The Forum requested that Environmental Services be asked to inform Refuse vehicles to be particularly careful in this area.
- AF(4)50 Repair/renew fencing around grassed area to improve appearance, Princess Street/Waterloo Terrace. The scheme had been referred to repairs and maintenance. Therefore the Forum agreed to remove the scheme from the schedule.
- AF(4)51 Renew section of fence at side of grassed area anti-social behaviour problems, Sunnyside Avenue in front of 1 - 12. A site visit was carried on 13<sup>th</sup> August. The scheme had been referred to repairs and maintenance. The Forum therefore agreed to remove the scheme from the schedule.
- AF(4)59 Renew fencing alongside of Chestnut Close to prevent youths gaining access. A site visit had been carried out on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2002. The scheme had been therefore agreed to remove the scheme from the schedule.
- AF(4)60 Remove seat/relocate litter bin/possibly plant prickly bushes to try and alleviate problems with youths, land to the side of No. 36 Ash Grove. A site visit had been

carried out on 13<sup>th</sup> August. It was noted that the wooded area could be more responsible for the problem than the seat. The Police and Community Force had monitored the situation. The Forum agreed to keep the scheme on the schedule until further monitoring was carried out to ensure the problem had been resolved.

Miss M. Ferguson reminded the Forum of the importance of getting schemes submitted and approved so as to avoid last year's situation of losing some of the allocation.

**AF(4).11/02 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2002 at 6.30pm in the Hackworth Suite, Shildon, Sunnydale Leisure Centre.

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**ACCESS TO INFORMATION**

Any person wishing to exercise the right of inspection, etc., in relation to these Minutes and associated papers should contact Claire Todd, Spennymoor 816166, Ext. 4240